

GOVERNOR BARBOUR NAMES KEY MEDICAID ADVISORY PANEL

JACKSON, Mississippi -- Governor Haley Barbour today named seven hospital administrators to a Medicaid Hospital Advisory Committee and asked them to provide advice and assistance to the Division of Medicaid with regard to matters affecting hospitals participating in the Medicaid program.

Governor Barbour said due to changes in reimbursement policies at the federal level, the advisory board will address the changing payment needs of Mississippi hospitals.

“This commission is purely advisory in nature and its members are drawn from a diverse group of hospital administrators. It is my hope they will offer Medicaid and hospitals their best counsel based on their combined years of experience in determining a solution to fund the Medicaid shortfall,” Governor Barbour said.

“The advisory committee will provide counsel to the Division of Medicaid regarding issues affecting hospitals and delivery of health care to a very important segment of Mississippi’s population. Ensuring the continued success of the Medicaid program is vital to all Mississippians,” Governor Barbour said.

The following hospital administrators were named to the advisory group:

Chris Anderson – Chief Executive Officer, Singing River Hospital System, Pascagoula

Gerald Wages - Chief Executive Officer, North Mississippi Medical Center, Tupelo

Chip Denton - Chief Executive Officer, Grenada Lake Medical Center, Grenada

Wallace Strickland - Chief Executive Officer, Rush Foundation Hospital, Meridian

Gary Marchand - Chief Executive Officer, Memorial Hospital at Gulfport

Will Ferniany - Chief Executive Officer, The University of Mississippi Medical Center, Jackson

Ray Humphreys - Chief Executive Officer, Delta Regional Medical Center, Greenville.

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